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*Reply To* Port Charlotte

May 18, 2015

VIA EMAIL ([jubilee1980@yahoo.com](mailto:jubilee1980@yahoo.com))  
William Dryburgh, Chair  
2015 Charter Review Commission

Re: Attorney for Charlotte County Charter Review Commission 2015-2016

Dear Bill:

I am very interested in again serving as the attorney for the Charlotte County Charter Review Commission ("Charter Review Commission"). Attached please find my resume.

I have extensive experience with County government, as a former Chief Assistant, and later Acting County Attorney for Charlotte County. My experience as City Attorney for the City of Punta Gorda also kept me well-versed in local government law issues. I truly enjoyed my experience in servicing the 2009-10 Charter Review Commission, and believe my work with that body was well received. According to the Florida Bar website, I am the only attorney in private practice listed as Board Certified by the Florida Bar in City, County and Local Government Law with an office in Charlotte County.


I currently represent two public entities, the Englewood Water District and the Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority. This, along with the certification requirements, have kept me current with local government law issues.

If selected by the Charter Review Commission, I will bill at a rate of \$200 per hour, billed in ¼ of an hour increments for legal services. This is the same billing terms

under which I served the last Charter Review Commission in 2009-10. With my office directly across the street from the County Administration Building, I would be readily available to the Charter Review Commission.

I would be honored to again be selected as the attorney for the Charter Review Commission. Please advise if you, or the Charter Review Commission, needs any additional information.

Very truly yours,



Robert H. Berntsson

Enclosure

## Robert H. Berntsson, Esq.

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### Experience:

Berntsson, Ittersagen, Gunderson & Wideikis, LLP  
Port Charlotte, Florida

May 1991 to Present, Shareholder since 1994.

Practice includes all areas of Local Government Law, including appearances before state, regional and local governmental agencies on land use, planning, zoning, administrative appeals and utility matters. Represented City of Punta Gorda, Florida, as City Attorney 1998 through 2005. Provide real property closing services for Charlotte County, Florida since 2003. Served as Hearing Officer for City of Cape Coral, Florida and Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida. Represent Englewood Water District and Gasparilla Island Bridge Authority, both Florida independent special districts. Served as attorney for Charlotte County Charter Review Commission, 2009-2010 term.

Charlotte County Attorney's Office

Port Charlotte, Florida

October 1989 to May 1991

Acting County Attorney/Chief Assistant County Attorney.

Heavy concentration in Land Use and Administrative Law including contract review and preparation, ordinance and regulation drafting and analysis, advising boards and county commission. Appointed Acting County Attorney, responsible for all legal matters of Charlotte County, January 1991.

Southold Town Attorney's Office

Southold, New York

January 1988 to October 1989

Assistant Town Attorney. Shared responsibility with part-time Town Attorney on all towns' legal matters.

Education: Emory University School of Law  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Received Juris Doctor, May 1986

Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts  
Received B.S. in Management, Concentration Accounting  
*cum laude*, May 1983

Professional:

AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell  
Board Certified in City, County and Local Government  
Law by the Florida Bar (August 2000 to present)  
Certified Civil Court Mediator by the Florida Bar  
Admitted to Florida (1989), New York and Georgia Bar  
Member, Charlotte County and American Bar Association  
Member of City, County and Local Government Law  
Section and Alternative Dispute Resolution sections  
of the Florida Bar

Community:

Special Magistrate, Baker Act Hearings, 2007 to Present  
Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council, 2008 to 2012  
Member, Board of Directors for:  
Charlotte SkatePark, Inc., 2002-2005  
Charlotte County Family YMCA, Inc., 2001-2002  
Charlotte Local Education Foundation, 1998-2002  
Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, 1993-98  
President 1995-96 Term  
American Heart Association, Charlotte Chapter  
Vice President, 1997-2000  
Economic Development Council of Charlotte  
County, 1993-1997  
Graduate, Leadership Southwest Florida Class of 1993  
Graduate, Leadership Charlotte Class of 1991/92